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FLOOR DEBATE

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other schools. I think we've got some beautiful colleges in this state. I'm saying again, can we afford to have the "wants" when we have to take care of, first, our needs. With that, I've spoke with a few of you here. I know the support is not here to pass this, but I would surely tell you that it's going to be impossible, I think, just to try and raise all this in new revenue, and I will be looking at any...any proposals to raise revenue with a very jaundiced eye. With that, I would ask the Clerk to please pull this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: It is withdrawn.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Pedersen would move to amend with AM3313. (Legislative Journal page 1197.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Pedersen, you're recognized to open on the amendment.

SENATOR DW. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Speaker Kristensen, members of the Legislature. First of all, I want to thank Senator Erdman for taking his two amendments and moving them down so I could put mine up there. It says...most of you know it's Wednesday afternoon and I must work on Wednesday nights, so I have to leave early, would stay if I absolutely had to, but it's very hard for me to do that. And again, Senator Erdman, thank you. When LB 1309 was on General File, Senator Chambers talked about the money that we took out of Corrections and what that money...what the Corrections was going to do with them cuts. And I'm going to read to you a paragraph that Director Clarke wrote to the Appropriations Committee about this program: To avoid jeopardizing the safe and secure operations of our facilities, the Department will manage the additional \$1.079 General Fund reduction by further cutting staff and programs through identified reductions in inmate educational programming. The Department plans to eliminate college credit courses, computer labs and vocational education. However, the Department will continue to provide adult basic education and GED programming. This amendment that I put in is strictly wording. It has nothing to do with the dollars except earmarking where I'm asking you, my colleagues, to support me in, and basically telling you about a program that we have out at the Department